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PROPOSAL FOR SMIE ON THE  
SOVIET MILITARY PRESENCE IN CUBA

The continuation of a Soviet military presence in Cuba after removal of the MRBM's and IL-28's raises important questions for intelligence and for policy.

USIB departments and agencies have been working individually to develop and report the pertinent facts. Their interpretations have varied in scope and emphasis. Meanwhile, the press has directed public attention to the continued Soviet military presence in Cuba, and the President and Secretary of State have taken note of the problem in public statements.

Secretary Rusk has suggested that a coordinated intelligence assessment be prepared for the White House.

I therefore propose that USIB undertake preparation of a SMIE on the current Soviet Military Presence in Cuba for approval by next week's meeting. The SMIE should cover such points as (a) the composition,

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organization, strength, and disposition of the Soviet military presence; (b) Soviet intentions as to continuing it and increasing or reducing it; (c) Soviet short-term and long-term objectives in maintaining it; (d) probable Cuban and Latin American reactions to its continuation; and (e) probable political and strategic effects of its continuation.

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